



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Governor Deval L. Patrick
EEA Secretary Maeve Vallely Bartlett
DCR Commissioner John P. Murray

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Patrick Administration Announces Improvements to the Francis L. Murphy Memorial Ice Skating Rink

BOSTON—Thursday, December 11, 2014— Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Deputy Commissioner Kevin Whalen today joined state and local officials to announce improvements to the Francis L. Murphy Memorial Ice Skating Rink in South Boston.

“The improvements being made to the rink will provide a space for the community to come together and be active during both the winter and summer months,” said Deputy Commissioner Whalen. “DCR has worked to create additional space for skaters and lifeguards to utilize throughout the rink.”

The improvements will allow for year-round use of the facility, serving as a beach bathhouse, lifeguard station and food concession area in the summer months. The \$2.4 million project includes the installation of new locker rooms and team rooms, an expanded concession area, better circulation and viewing areas. The new locker rooms will include showers and toilets for the athletes and the new team rooms will provide additional rooms to accommodate co-ed hockey.

“I am proud to join DCR and the South Boston community for this groundbreaking at Murphy Rink. South Boston is known as a hotbed of hockey and these improvements will allow for greater access and usability for young people and adults alike,” said Senator Linda Dorcea Fory. “DCR’s additional upgrades will allow for year-round access, which showcases its commitment to enhancing South Boston’s recreational resources.”

“I want to thank Governor Patrick and DCR, led by Commissioner Murray, for their leadership on this project,” continued Senator Fory. “I also want to thank my colleagues Representative Nick Collins for spearheading this legislation and Representative Dan Hunt for his hard work on this project both in the House and during his time at DCR.”

“Finally, I want to remember Boston Firefighter Francis L. Murphy who lost his life in the line of duty 50 years ago,” Fory said. “This rink stands as a monument for a man who sacrificed his life so that others may live; I hope that those who enjoy this facility see this plaque and remember a hero,” concluded Senator Fory.

“As someone who grew up as a rink rat at the Murphy rink in South Boston, I made it my personal mission since I took office in 2011 to work with the DCR to secure the funding for these much needed improvements to Murphy Rink,” said Representative Nick Collins. “I was happy to work with Commissioner Murray, his predecessor Ed Lambert and former Lieutenant Governor

Tim Murray to ensure that these investments will enhance this important community resource for future generations.”

The rink was built in 1961 and, four years later, was named in honor of Francis L. Murphy, a lifelong resident and Boston firefighter, who was killed in the line of duty on October 1, 1964. During the event, DCR unveiled a new plaque rededicating the Francis L. Murphy Memorial Rink to the people of Massachusetts and recognizing Governor Deval Patrick and his Administration’s work to improve the rink. Since taking office in 2007, the Patrick Administration has invested more than \$16.5 million in DCR Rinks. These investments include structural upgrades, energy efficiency improvements and improvements to safety and refrigeration.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams and parkways. Led by Commissioner Jack Murray, the agency’s mission is to protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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